all the outstandings and by selling property. Whether the sales are necessary and the sale based on the best possible price is, as I said before, the only relevant objection why the Civil Courts should be deprived of the powers? My answer is, certainly, better facilities would be given to the Court of Wards to realise as much as possible by the sale of the estate.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know, for information, whether this minor has filed a suit in theCivil Court of Cochin, and whether it has come to the notice of the Court of Wards? I may be informed whether that information is correct.

President.—No information.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Government may give up the management, but there is the legal objection to the suggestion. The Court of Wards cannot surrender the management at the present day. I am sorry to state that this is a matter on which the Court has to satisfy itself that it is practically impossible.

President.—The Diwan Peishkar has told us that the management would be given up, if the Court is satisfied that it is impracticable to liquidate the debts in a reasonable time.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—All Members think 10 months to be a sufficiently long time though the Court of Wards thinks otherwise. It is too short a time with regard to such a big estate with a large number of creditors.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The only objection is with regard to the powers of the Civil Courts being taken away and vested in the executive officers. Whether the officer appointed by the Government will mismanage or not, I have nothing to say. I presume, with the capacity and honesty of the officers, that, certainly, this arrangement by the Government better serves the interests of the estate and the creditors.

The Council adjourned for lunch at 2 p. m. It re-assembled at 3 p. m. under the presidentship of M. R. Ry. V. K. Kochunni Menon Avl., B. A. & B. L., Member for Ernakulam and Deputy President.

President.—Before we resume our work, I have to make one statement. You know I am new to the business. Mine is, no doubt, an important function, and I request you to extend to me the same sort of indulgence as you have been doing to the President.

Congratulations to the Deputy President.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—In the conduct of the normal business of this Council, this is the first occasion on which you, as the Deputy President, selected from among the non-

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official Members of this Council, occupy the Chair and, as such, permit me, on behalf of the non-official Members of this House, to offer you our hearty felicitations and to assure you our support and hearty co-operation in our joint deliberations. Many of us have been pressing for the amendment of the Regulation, and the Rules to secure the appointment of an elected President for this Legislative Council. The opportunity afforded to us to-day will enable us to demonstrate the need as well as the justification for what we consider to be a legitimate and reasonable demand. We are confident that you will rise equal to the occasion, and we beg to assure that you will find the Members faithful in the discharge of the duties towards you.

President.—Thank you sincerely for the remarks you have made.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Sir, on behalf of the official Members of this Council, I beg to offer you our hearty congratulations and felicitations, and will extend to you the same kind of co-operation as we have been doing to the President.

President.—Thank you very sincerely for the remarks you have made. I have only to assure you that I shall try my best to discharge the duties of the President to your satisfaction. With your co-operation, I do not think it is a matter of great difficulty.

The Bill to amend the Court of Wards Regulation.

President.—We shall now proceed with the Court of Wards Amendment Bill. I have to make a few remarks:—

Before putting the motion as to whether this can be taken up for consideration, I wish to say one or two points. Now, much is made of the fact with regard to the occasion on which this question has come up. I believe the Members will forget the fact that Mr. Sankaranainan Pillai's estate is a factor in this. We have only to look to the general principles of the Bill. Now, if, as a matter of fact, this Amendment Bill is absolutely necessary for the proper working of the Court of Wards Regulation, I think there can be no room for doubt that this amendment ought to be allowed. If, on the other hand, the Court of Wards Regulation can be properly worked, irrespective of this, that is to say, without transferring the rights of the Court to the Court of Wards, then, it seems to me that there is no necessity at all for an amendment of this sort. Now, it is for you to say whether there is any real defect in the working of the Court of Wards Regulation, and to amend it on the lines on which it has been done by the amending Bill.

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